



Michael D. Coats  
Vice President, Chevron Mining Inc.

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(6SF-R)

May 16, 2017

Ms. Gladys Gooden-Jackson  
Water Enforcement Branch (6EN-WC)  
EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Program Manager  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P.O. Box 5469  
1190 Saint Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

**RE: Notification of Cessation of Conveyances through Tailing Pipeline  
Administrative Order; Docket No. CWA-06-2017-1708;  
NPDES Permit No. NM0022306**

Dear Ms. Gooden-Jackson:

Chevron Mining, Inc. ("CMI") submits this notification in satisfaction of the requirements of Section B of Administrative Order; Docket No. CWA-06-2017-1708, dated November 18, 2016 (the "Order") and Part III, Section D(2) of NPDES Permit No. NM0022306, effective November 1, 2013 ("Permit"). Please note that submission of this report does not constitute an admission by CMI of the truth of any of the "Findings" contained in the Order.

Part III, Section D(2) of CMI's Permit requires advance notice to the Director of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements. CMI submits this notification in the interest of full transparency and in satisfaction of its obligations under the Permit and Order.

CMI's Permit required that CMI, "Totally cease conveying mill process wastewater, mine drainage, and captured groundwater or spring water to tailings facility..." by October 1, 2016. As the EPA is aware, CMI initially met that milestone on October 1, 2016 when it timely ceased discharges of mine drainage, captured groundwater and spring water into the mine on or before October 1, 2016.<sup>1</sup> However, due to construction delays associated with the permanent water treatment plant, problems assembling a temporary water treatment plant and concerns about conveyances of water to the former mine, following discussions with the EPA, CMI restarted use of the tailing pipeline on November 18, 2016 (See Attachment A).

CMI is now providing this notice that on **Tuesday, May 16, 2017**, all conveyances of mine drainage, captured groundwater and spring water down the tailing pipeline ceased, and that CMI is now in compliance with its Permit.

<sup>1</sup> The other source of water listed in Part I (B)(iii), "mill process wastewater," ceased to exist following the mine's shutdown in October 2014.

Questa Mine  
P.O. Box 469, Questa, NM 87556  
Tel 575 586 7507  
michaelcoats@chevron.com



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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Coats". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being more prominent than the last name "Coats".

Michael D. Coats

CC:

Samuel Coleman  
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI  
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Dallas, TX 75202

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